

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 /089 W

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R 170121Z JUL 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8348

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS USUN 2933

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SS, AOOU

SUBJECT: OAU"RESOLUTION"ON SAHARA

REF: (A) RABAT 3741 ; (B) USUN 2932

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JULY 15 LETTER FROM MAURITANIAN
PERM REP TO SECRETARY-GENERAL; IDSTRIIBUTED AS UNGA /SC
DOCUMENT. QUOTE

WITH REFERENCE TO THE LETTER SENT TO YOU BY THE CHARGE
D'AFFIRES OF ALGERIA (A/31/136-S/12141), I HAVE THE HONOUR
TO INFORM YOU THAT THE RESOLUTION ON THE WESTERN SAHARA PUBLISHED
IN ANNEX I OF THAT LETTER WAS NOT ADOPTED BY THE 13TH SUMMIT
MEETING OF OAU AND THEREFORE CANNOT IN ANY SENSE BE RE-
&-4\$3\$ AS A RESOLUTION OF THAT ORGANIZATION. IN ORDER TO
QUALIFY AS SUCH, THIS RECOMMENDATION OF THE COUNCIL OF MIN-
ISTERS WOULD HAVE HAD TO BE RATIFIED BY THE SUMMIT MEETING IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE NORMAL PROCEDURE LAID DOWN BY THE CHARTER
OF OAU. HOWEVER, NO SUCH ACTION WAS TAKEN.

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IT IS THEREFORE IMPROPER AT THE VERY LEAST AND EVEN DISCOURTEOUS TO THE AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE TO REQUEST THE PUBLICATION AS A UNITED NATIONS DOCUMENT OF A RECOMMENDATION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WHICH THE HEADS OF AFRICAN STATES, IN THEIR POLITICAL WISDOM, DID NOT SEE FIT TO RATIFY. THIS IS A PIECE OF TRICKERY ON THE PART OF THE ALGERIAN REPRESENTATIVE WHICH IS APPARENTLY INTENDED TO SOW DOUBT AND CONFUSION PRIOR TO THE FORTHCOMING SUMMIT MEETING OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT ONLY DECISION ON THE SAHARA ADOPTED BY THE 13TH SUMMIT MEETING OF OAU IS THE ONE PUBLISHED IN ANNEX II TO THE ALGERIAN REPRESENTATIVE'S LETTER, WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS:

"THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT MEETING IN MAURITIUS FROM 2 TO 5 JULY 1976,
"RECALLING THE RELEVANT RESOLUTION OF THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AND OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON THE QUESTION OF THE WESTERN SAHARA,

"RECALLING IN PARTICULAR ITS AFFIRMATION OF THE SACRED PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION,

"1. INVITES ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED AND INTERESTED, INCLUDING THE PEOPLE OF THE WESTERN SAHARA, TO CO-OPERATE WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT IN THE INTERESTS OF PEACE, JUSTICE AND GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS IN THE REGION WITH DUE REGARD FOR THE CHARTER OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AND THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS;

"2. DECIDES TO HOLD A SPECIAL SESSION AT THE LEVEL OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PEOPLE OF THE WESTERN SAHARA FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINDING A JUST AND LASTING SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF WESTERN SAHARA."

AS WILL BE SEEN, THE DEFINITIVE POSITION OF OAU ON THE WESTERN SAHARA WILL NOT EMERGE UNTIL THE SPECIAL SUMMIT MEETING PROVIDED FOR IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE ABOVE RESOLUTION HAS BEEN HELD.

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I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD ISSUE THIS LETTER AS A DOCUMENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, UNDER ITEM 24 OF THE PRELIMINARY LIST OF ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION, AND OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

SIGNED) MOULAYE EL HASSEN
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
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